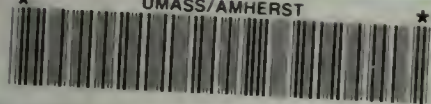


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THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN NURSING

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ANNUAL REPORT

FISCAL 1970





THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN NURSING

ANNUAL REPORT - FISCAL 1970

INTRODUCTION

PURPOSE OF REPORT

Through this document, the Board of Registration in Nursing complies with Section 78, Chapter 112, General Laws, which requires the Board to "make an annual report of the condition of nursing in the Commonwealth." The report covers the fiscal year period from July 1, 1969 through June 30, 1970.

PURPOSE AND FUNCTIONS OF BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN NURSING

The Board of Registration in Nursing, an administrative agency within the governmental organization of the Commonwealth, is delegated the responsibility for implementation of those statutes and sections of statutes that provide legal control of nursing practice. The fundamental purpose of the Board is to safeguard the welfare of the citizens of the Commonwealth who require the services of professional and practical nurses.

To fulfill its purpose, the Board has two major functions:

1. Licensure of professional and practical nurses;
2. Determination and maintenance of nursing education standards that are basic to licensure of safe practitioners through approval of nursing education programs.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE BOARD

Qualifications for membership are established by Section 13, Chapter 13, General Laws, as amended.

The twelve member Board consists of five registered nurses, one licensed practical nurse, two qualified physicians, two hospital administrators and two hospital trustees. Members are appointed for six-year terms by the Governor.

Membership during the major portion of the period covered by the report is outlined in Table 1.

Table 1. Membership, Board of Registration in Nursing

<u>Name of Member</u>	<u>Representation</u>
Harold A. Callahan	Hospital Administration
Hazelle Ferguson, R.N.	Public Health Nursing
Eleanor A. Gaffney, R.N.	Practical Nursing Education
Shirley Garant, R.N.	Diploma Nursing Education
Catherine T. Garrity, L.P.N.	Practical Nursing
Clinton N. Koufman, M.D.	Medical Profession
Marie S. Andrews, R.N.	Collegiate Nursing Education
Nathan E. Silbert, M.D.	Medical Profession
R. Ashton Smith	Hospital Administration
Irene Theberge, R.N.	Nursing Service Administration
Matthew McCann	Hospital Trustee





Board members elect a chairman at the annual meeting. Hazelle Ferguson, R.N., served as chairman during the major portion of the period covered by the report. Mrs. Ferguson succeeded the previous chairman, Eleanor A. Gaffney, R.N. There was one vacancy in Board membership throughout the report period. The vacancy was in the category of trustee of a hospital which conducts an approved school of nursing.

### BOARD MEETINGS

The Board held nine (9) regular and two (2) special meetings during the 1970 fiscal year. A quorum was established at each meeting. Minutes of each meeting are on file at the Board of Registration in Nursing office.

### LICENSURE

#### PROFESSIONAL NURSES

During the 1970 fiscal year, eight examination sessions consisting of two days per session were conducted. A total of 2918 candidates were examined. The source of examinees was as follows:

Graduates of Schools of Nursing in Massachusetts.....	2290
Graduates of Schools of Nursing located in other States.....	240
Graduates of Schools of Nursing located in other Countries.....	388
Total .....	2918

Of the 2918 examinees, 2152 were examined for the first time; 766 were repeating the examination.

Original certificates of registration were issued to 3978 individuals, 2126 through examination and 1852 through endorsement by another board of nursing.

Also, 68,455 renewal registrations were issued. Therefore, a total of 72,433 professional nurses were registered in Massachusetts during fiscal 1970.

Table 2 provides the number of registered nurse certificates issued annually for five consecutive years, 1966-1970.

Table 2. Number of Registered Nurse Certificates Issued Annually, 1966-1970

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Original Registrations</u>		<u>Renewal Registrations</u>	<u>Total Registrations</u>
	<u>Examination</u>	<u>Endorsement</u>		
1966	1463	895	60,592	62,950
1967	1903	1423	65,961	69,287
1968	2169	1433	66,481	70,083
1969	2282	1555	68,551	72,388
1970	2126	1852	68,455	72,433





During the five year period 1966-1970, total registrations increased by 9843. A comparison of 1966 with 1970 statistics shows an increase in all areas as follows: 663 more original registrations, 957 more registrations by endorsement and 7863 more renewal registrations.

### PRACTICAL NURSES

During fiscal 1970, six practical nurse examination sessions of one day each were held and 1442 candidates were examined. The source of examinees was as follows:

Graduates of Schools of Practical Nursing located in Massachusetts ..	1311
Graduates of Schools of Practical Nursing located in other States ...	24
Graduates of Schools of Practical Nursing located in other Countries.	16
Equivalency (Withdrawals from Schools of Professional Nursing).....	58
*Graduates of Commonwealth Center for Practical Nurse Education .....	33

\*The accelerated program for practical nurses licensed through waiver statutes.

A total of 1513 original certificates of licensure were issued to practical nurses, 1346 through examination and 167 through endorsement.

During fiscal 1970, 19,475 renewal licenses were issued. Therefore, a total of 20,988 practical nurse licenses were issued during the year.

Table 3 provides the number of practical nurse licenses issued annually for five consecutive years, 1966-1970.

Table 3. Number of Practical Nurse Licenses Issued Annually 1966-1970

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Original Licenses</u>		<u>Renewal Licenses</u>	<u>Total Licenses</u>
	<u>Examination</u>	<u>Endorsement</u>		
1966	597	124	16,721	17,442
1967	1113	148	18,739	20,000
1968	1245	173	18,807	20,225
1969	1124	170	19,564	20,858
1970	1346	167	19,475	20,988

During the five year period 1966-1970, total licenses increased by 3546. A comparison of 1966 with 1970 statistics shows an increase in all areas as follows: 749 more original registrations, 43 more registrations by endorsement and 2754 additional renewal licenses.

### CERTIFICATION OF PROFESSIONAL NURSES

A nurse registered in another jurisdiction may be issued a certificate to practice professional nursing under the supervision of a registered nurse pending completion of the requirements for registration. The certification provisions of the nursing practice statute (Section 70A, Chapter 112 G.L.) apply to nurses educated in other countries. A certificate is issued for one year and may be renewed for one additional consecutive year.

During the period of this report, 181 original and 16 renewal certificates were issued.





From the effective date of the certification statute in 1966 through June 30, 1970 a total of 819 applications for certification have been filed; 565 certificates have been issued and 70 certificates have been renewed. A total of 216 applications have been withdrawn during the 1966-70 period because the applicants did not file necessary credentials within a one-year period. Thirty-eight (38) applications were pending as of June 30, 1970. Therefore, since the certification statute was enacted in 1966, over 68.9% of the applicants have complied with procedural requirements and have been certified.

#### CERTIFIED STATEMENTS ISSUED TO OTHER BOARDS OF NURSING

Licensure through endorsement requires that the Board of Nursing in the state of original licensure provide a certified statement verifying that license to the Board of Nursing in the state in which the individual is making application for registration as a professional nurse or license as a practical nurse without examination.

During Fiscal 1970, the Board of Registration in Nursing issued a total of 2420 certified statements to other Boards of Nursing, 1954 for registered nurses and 466 for licensed practical nurses. The total number of certified statements issued for both categories of licensees showed little variation from the preceding year.

#### DISCIPLINARY ACTION AND REINSTATEMENTS

In accordance with section 77, chapter 112, the Board of Registration in Nursing investigates complaints of violations of the nursing practice law. The number of complaints being received at the Board office is increasing. Procurement of proper evidence to support a complaint is frequently difficult. During fiscal 1970, six written complaints were received. The Board referred four cases to the Department of Public Safety for further investigation. These cases all involved persons who were representing themselves to be registered nurses without being licensed as such in Massachusetts. The reports of the Department of Public Safety indicated inability to locate one of the persons, insufficient evidence on another, and a recommendation not to prosecute a third. As of June 30, 1970, no report had been received from the Department of Public Safety on the fourth case referred.

Eleven complaints of nursing practice (ten registered nurses and one licensed practical nurse) resulted in the suspension/revocation of the licenses of three registered nurses and one licensed practical nurse and disposition without action on the others because the evidence offered in support of the complaint was inadequate (6 cases) or because of a court decision not to suspend licensure which was reached prior to Board action on the complaint in one case.

During this period, two registered nurses and three licensed practical nurses, whose licenses had been previously suspended/revoked, were reinstated.





## BASIC NURSING EDUCATION IN MASSACHUSETTS

### TYPES AND NUMBERS OF NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAMS

The Board of Registration in Nursing is the legal accrediting (approval) agency for educational programs preparing professional and practical nurses.

There are three distinctive types of programs whose graduates are eligible for admission to the examination for registration as professional nurses (R.N.) They are:

1. Schools of Nursing that grant the diploma, usually administered by a hospital corporation;
2. Junior or Community College Programs that grant an associate degree in nursing;
3. College or University Programs that grant a baccalaureate degree in nursing.

Practical Nursing Schools whose graduates are eligible for admission to the practical nurse licensing examination (L.P.N.) are categorized according to administrative control as hospital schools, vocational or trade school programs, and independent schools.

On June 30, 1970 there were 98 approved nursing education programs in Massachusetts distributed as follows:

<u>Professional Nursing</u>	
Diploma	40
Associate Degree	13
Baccalaureate Degree	7
Total Professional Nursing Schools	<u>60</u>
 <u>Practical Nursing</u>	
Hospital	13
Vocational	20
Independent	5
Total Practical Nursing Schools	<u>38</u>

During the period covered by this report, the professional nursing education programs conducted by Henry Heywood Hospital, Gardner, and Sturdy Memorial Hospital, Attleboro, were terminated. Four diploma programs are in the process of closure; three of these initiated the procedure during this report year and the fourth started the process two years ago. However, the three programs initiating closure proceeding this year are phasing into a single, central diploma school which will open in September, 1970. Four additional professional nursing education programs, two at the baccalaureate and two at the associate degree level, will open during calendar 1970.

During fiscal 1970 the practical nursing education program conducted by Westboro State Hospital was closed but was replaced by an independent program, the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health-Assabet Valley Division, Westboro. Also, an independent school, the Shepard Gill School of Practical Nursing, Boston, announced closure and will be replaced by a hospital-conducted program. In addition, two new practical nurse programs conducted by vocational schools will open in the Fall of 1970.





Of the 57 professional programs in full operation as of the Fall of 1969, 28 (49.1%) had enrollments of less than 100 students: 16 of 39 diploma programs, 1 of 5 baccalaureate programs and 11 of 13 associate degree programs. Of the 37 practical nursing programs in full operation, 16 (43.2%) had enrollments of less than 50 students and 32 (86.5) had enrollments of less than 100 students.

Thus, two-thirds (60 of 94) of the approved nursing education programs in Massachusetts have fewer than 100 students enrolled in them. Providing a basic complement of qualified faculty for the large number of schools continues as the major nursing education problem in Massachusetts.

### ENROLLMENT, ADMISSIONS AND GRADUATIONS, SCHOOLS OF PROFESSIONAL AND PRACTICAL NURSING

As of the Fall, 1969, a total of 10,424 students were enrolled in basic nursing education programs in Massachusetts. Of that total, 8,146 were enrolled in professional and 2,278 in practical nursing program.

The following table provides enrollment, admission and graduation statistics for the three types of professional nursing education programs for the academic year 1968-69.

<u>Type of Program</u>	<u>No. Students Enrolled</u>	<u>% of Enrollment</u>	<u>No. Students Admitted</u>	<u>No. of Graduates</u>
Diploma	5013	61.5	1991	1443
Associate Degree	1172	14.4	667	255
Baccalaureate Degree	1961	24.1	586	287
Totals	<u>8146</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>3244</u>	<u>1985</u>

In professional programs, enrollment increased by 5.45% and admissions by 6% over 1968 totals. Graduations declined 10.1% reflecting the marked decrease in admissions to professional programs in 1966, the only year in the five year period 1965-69 that a decrease occurred.

The next following table provides enrollment, admission and graduation statistics for the three types of practical nursing education programs for the academic year 1968-69.

<u>Type of Program</u>	<u>No. Students Enrolled</u>	<u>% of Enrollment</u>	<u>No. Students Admitted</u>	<u>No. of Graduates</u>
Hospital	718	31.6	480	429
Vocational	1247	54.7	882	570
Independent	313	13.7	227	154
Totals	<u>2278</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>1589</u>	<u>1153</u>

In practical nursing, each of the statistical categories represents an increase over 1968 figures. Enrollment increased by 3.8%, admissions by 0.9% and graduations by 8.2%.





## COMMONWEALTH CENTER FOR PRACTICAL NURSE EDUCATION

An accelerated practical nursing program for practical nurses licensed through a waiver statute in Massachusetts was initiated in 1967. Known as the Commonwealth Center for Practical Nurse Education, the program is administered by the Division of Vocational Education and approved by the Board of Registration in Nursing.

Original planning for this program anticipated that 1,000 eligible recruits could be offered the program within a two-year period. It was expected that three separate sections would operate simultaneously in different regions of the state, following implementation of a pilot section in the Greater Boston area. The plans have not been realized. The lack of support for the program by employers of licensed practical nurses, other state agencies and voluntary organizations along with the unavailability of funds for the project has hampered the success of the project. Until initiation of the program in the Fall River area on June 1, 1970, the program has been available only in the Boston area.

As of June 30, 1970, 289 candidates have enrolled in this program (264 in Boston; 25 in the Southeastern, Fall River program). Only the Boston section produced graduates during this fiscal year. Of the 216 graduates who wrote the practical nurse licensure examination prior to July 1, 1970, 197 (91.2%) passed the examination on first attempt and 10 of 13 passed on the second attempt. Therefore, 96% of the graduates have become licensed as graduates of an approved school of practical nursing thereby qualifying for a broader range of employment.

## INSPECTION (EVALUATION) OF NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Section 81A, Chap. 112, G.L. as amended authorized the Board of Registration in Nursing to "inspect" schools of professional and practical nursing for approval purposes and requires that no approval be withdrawn unless an "inspection" has been made. By its own regulation, the Board requires that each approved nursing education program be "surveyed" at least every three years. Implementation of the Board's regulation has continually been hampered by the lack of adequate professional staff to conduct the survey procedure. Traditionally, the survey procedure has included a site visit. Primarily, the site visit is required to determine if Board regulations relative to educational and clinical facilities are being met. Frequently, there has been no change in these facilities from one survey visit to the next and, therefore, the site visit in those instances often became superfluous but time-consuming. On March 25, 1970, members of the Board of Registration in Nursing adopted the following definition of "inspection": Inspection embodies the elements of evaluation. Inspection of a nursing education program requires evaluation of the program and the conduct of the school using Board of Registration in Nursing regulations as the evaluation criteria. Such evaluation may include, but does not necessarily require, a site visit to the physical facilities.

During this fiscal year, inspections were conducted in relation to the following nursing education programs. Reports were prepared for review and action by the Board and were subsequently circulated to appropriate officers associated with the respective program:





North Shore Community College, Department of Nurse Education  
(Clinical facilities only)  
D.H. Fanning Trade High School Practical Nursing Program  
Quinsigamond Community College, Department of Nursing  
Massachusetts Bay Community College Nursing Program  
Boston University School of Nursing (Clinical facilities only)  
Lowell State College, Department of Nursing  
Northern Essex Community College, Department of Nursing Education  
(Clinical facilities only)  
Berkshire Community College, Department of Nursing  
Springfield Technical Community College, Division of Nursing  
Southeastern Massachusetts University, College of Nursing  
Holyoke Community College, Department of Nursing  
Fall River Diploma School of Nursing  
Salem State College, Department of Nursing Education  
Northeast Metropolitan Regional Vocational Technical School Practical  
Nurse Program.

#### NEW NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAMS APPROVED

During this fiscal year, the Board of Registration in Nursing approved six new schools of professional nursing and two new schools of practical nursing. The schools are:

Upper Cape Cod Regional Vocational Technical Practical Nurse Program  
Northeast Metropolitan Regional Vocational School Practical Nurse Program  
Northeastern University Associate Degree Program for Preparation of  
Licensed Practical Nurses to Become Professional Nurses  
Springfield Technical Community College, Division of Nursing  
Southeastern Massachusetts University, College of Nursing  
Holyoke Community College, Department of Nursing  
Fall River Diploma School of Nursing  
Salem State College, Department of Nursing Education

In addition, the Board approved the Commonwealth Center for Practical Nurse Education, Southeastern Section, an accelerated program for Licensed Practical Nurses licensed through Massachusetts "waiver" statute and a basic program in psychiatric nursing for nurses educated in other countries to be conducted by the Metropolitan State Hospital.

#### BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN NURSING ACTION ON CURRICULUM REVISIONS

The Board reviewed 47 curriculum revision proposals submitted by the schools. Twenty-four schools of professional nursing submitted a total of 33 curriculum revision proposals (9 schools submitted two separate proposals during the year). Board action resulted in approval of 32 of the 33 proposals. Twelve schools of practical nursing submitted 14 curriculum revision proposals of which 13 were approved by the Board (2 schools submitted two separate proposals).

One or more curriculum revisions were approved by the Board for the following schools:





Atlantic Union College, Department of Nursing  
Boston University School of Nursing  
Brockton Hospital School of Nursing  
Catherine Laboure School of Nursing  
Cooley Dickinson Hospital School of Nursing  
Department of Health and Hospitals, Boston City Hospital School of Nursing  
Lawrence General Hospital School of Nursing  
Lawrence Memorial Hospital School of Nursing  
Leominster Hospital School of Nursing  
Lowell General Hospital School of Nursing  
Massachusetts Bay Community College Nursing Program  
Melrose-Wakefield Hospital School of Nursing  
Memorial Hospital School of Nursing  
Mount Auburn Hospital School of Nursing  
Northeastern University College of Nursing (Associate Degree Program)  
Northern Essex Community College Department of Nursing Education  
Quincy City Hospital School of Nursing  
St. Lukes School of Nursing of Berkshire Medical Center  
St. Vincent's Hospital School of Nursing  
Somerville Hospital School of Nursing  
Springfield Medical Center School of Nursing  
Worcester City Hospital School of Nursing  
Worcester Hahnemann Hospital School of Nursing  
Beverly Hospital School of Practical Nursing  
Department of Health and Hospitals, Boston City Hospital School of Practical Nursing  
Holy Ghost Hospital School of Practical Nursing  
Lemuel Shattuck Hospital School of Practical Nursing  
M.D.M.H., Assabet Valley Division School of Practical Nursing  
Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical Practical Nurse Program  
Smith Vocational High School Practical Nurse Program  
Springfield Trade High School Practical Nurse Program  
Tewksbury Hospital School of Practical Nursing  
Waltham Vocational Practical Nurse Program  
Winthrop Community Hospital School of Practical Nursing

#### LEGISLATION

Chapter 291 was signed into law during the 1970 legislative session, effective August 11, 1970. This act provides that upon application of a licensed practical nurse, licensed under the provisions of Section 7, Chapter 595, Acts of 1957 or Chapter 354, acts of 1958, the Board shall issue a certificate of licensure which shall not contain any indication that said nurse was licensed under the provisions of either of these acts.

The process of removing letter designations from the license numbers of these licensed practical nurses was instituted by the Board effective June 1, 1970. The letters have been removed and new license numbers issued automatically upon renewal of licenses. The process will be completed by June 30, 1971.





BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN NURSING FEES

The provisions of Chapter 603, Acts of 1969, effective January 1, 1970 changed the fee schedule for all but Licensed Practical Nurse renewal licenses and Certified Statements to another Board in the middle of the fiscal year. Therefore, the fee schedule for both time periods is provided:

	<u>July 1, 1969 - December 31, 1969</u>	<u>January 1, 1970- June 30, 1970</u>
Original Licensure R.N.	\$10.00	\$25.00
Original Licensure L.P.N.	10.00	25.00
Certified Statement to Another Board	2.00	2.00
Certification to Practice Professional Nursing	10.00	25.00
Renewal of Certification to Practice Professional Nursing	1.00	3.00
Evaluation of Foreign Nurse (for visa purposes)	5.00	5.00
Renewal Licensure R.N.	1.00*	4.00
Renewal Licensure L.P.N.	1.00*	1.00

\*For annual renewal. \$4.00 fee provides biennial renewal and becomes effective for Licensed Practical Nurses January 1, 1971.



BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN NURSING

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

June 30, 1970

INCOME

Fees	314,800.77	
Miscellaneous	<u>45.57</u>	
Total Income		314,846.34

EXPENDITURES

Board members - Salaries	4,067.29	
" " Travel Expenses	1,012.40	
Travel Accts Payable	<u>1,487.60</u>	
Total Board expenses		6,567.29

From Director's Office  
Clerical Services

01	104,085.80	
02	7,742.36	
Office Expenses	56,509.38	
" " 1970 Accts Payable	<u>8,852.37</u>	
Total Director's Office expenses		177,188.91

Income	314,846.34
Expenditures	<u>183,756.20</u>
Difference	131,090.14

*Hazelle Ferguson, R.N.*

Hazelle Ferguson, R.N., Chairman

*Mary A. Baroli, R.N.*

Mary A. Baroli, R.N., Executive Secretary



